

NUMBER 40

'A soul above buttons.'—A boy named Palmer, son of a tailor of Taunton, deliberately chopped off the thumb of his left hand, with a hatchet, 'to save himself from being made a tailor of.'

From the Litchfield, C. Enquirer.
THE WEST! THE WEST!

The following extracts from a letter from the Editor of the West (Illinois) has been handed to us for publication, that our readers may see what some of the emigrants from New England think of the beautiful country described. The writer is a lady, formerly a resident, and we believe a native of this town. People who are desirous to emigrate to the West should remember that "all is not gold that glitters." A plate of tin looks as bright at a distance as one of silver.

Near Chicago, Oct. 10, 1836.

"Provisions here are low in comparison to what they were last winter. Butter is from 15 to 20 cents per pound, and plenty, and every thing else is so in the eating line. The climate is quite cold here, much more so than at Litchfield or in N. York State. The summer is very short. I do not know whether it is best to be sorry that we have come here or not. We talk some of going south. We feel quite dissatisfied with the country here. Lumber is 40 dollars a thousand. A poor man can hardly afford floor to his log cabin. We live on a road where from twenty to thirty market wagons, loaded with flour, butter, corn meal, oats, &c., pass (from the south to Chicago) every day. Reason teaches us that where those articles is better than to stay here, where it is cold that oats can't grow more than a foot high, and not get ripe at all. We have been disappointed in coming here.

"In this country every house, cabin, or wigwam is a tavern. At least the wearied traveler thinks it very hard if when he gets to a house he cannot get something to eat by paying for it.

"Often at the still hour of midnight do my thoughts wing their way to my sister's bedside, and there I fancy myself administering to her wants; at other times I am by our parents' fire side listening to the voice of instruction and prayer, which long since became silent; but alas! in the morning it is all a dream, and I find myself in our little log cabin, which is about 16 by 16 feet—only one room. I have in it two beds, a bureau, nine chairs, a table, a chest to keep luncheon in, a barrel of flour, a stove, three shelves for dishes, besides the trundle bed and a chest or two under the other beds. We have one window with six lights on the west side, and a hole cut thro' the logs on the south with an old rag hung up before it in rainy days. The remainder of the light creeps through the crevices between the logs. A sort of floor we have overhead made of loose boards, which is accessible by a rough ladder—[no cellar, no chambers, no closet, no well—and this is happiness at the west.]

"Our children have not been to school a day since they have been in the country, and if we remain where we are, they never can, unless we are able to have them boarded in town. I have not attended public worship since I left the State of New York (18 months since). I do not wish to have mother come here: it is too cold, and she could never go to meeting, or have any society of any consequence. If we move south, I hope to be differently situated in this respect.

"The wind here is very piercing. When blowing its highest gale on Litchfield or Goshen hills it can hardly be compared with our every day winds here. I must confess that I am somewhat homesick." To me, who was brought up among the hills and woods and among pleasant neighbors, an uninhabited prairie has but few charms. A little prairie land is very convenient, but what delight has an ocean prairie where there is no object upon which the lone traveller can fix his eyes; no object whither to direct his steps? I would almost as soon take up my abode with the tempest torn mariner as to think of living on such a place. Yet this is a correct description of a great part of the far-famed Illinois.

Corn Planting.—We have been frequently asked who has any of the Dutton corn for sale. We do not, know there is any in the State.—If there is not, there ought to be, had before another year we hope some trader or other person will procure a quantity of it for sale. Meantime the small Canada corn is doubtless the best we have. The hills may be very near each other and an acre thus made to produce as much of it as if the larger sort. In many parts of New Hampshire and Massachusetts the farmers use a plough with a double mould board. With this they throw the land into ridges, turning the turf over, one furrow against the other, so that the sword shall all be covered; upon these ridges the corn is planted. The turf thus covered ferments and warms the soil, at the same time that it enriches it. We should apprehend that these ridges would not do so well in a dry season, but those who have practiced upon this plan recommend it. It is certainly an expeditious mode of tillage. In planting and hoeing, all the turfs should be kept bottom upwards.

By covering seed corn with tar and plaster it is protected from birds and insects in a great measure, so that a war of extermination upon the poor crows can be spared. Instead of being driven off a price set upon their heads, their society ought to be courted as they subsist principally upon insects and carrion. By the way all animal bodies should always be buried in the earth, to increase its fertility, instead of being left above ground to corrupt the atmosphere. This would leave the crows to subsist upon worms, by which means they would save ten times more money to the farmer than was ever paid as a bounty for their destruction.

There are a few of our birds which subsist upon grain entirely, and but very few. The pigeon we believe is the largest of them. Most birds subsist upon insects. Many of them destroy great numbers of grasshoppers, as do also

hens, and turkeys. The smallest kind of granivorous birds feed upon the fine seeds of many kinds of weeds, and are useful in that way. In fact there are but very few birds that are not useful in some way, and fewer still that do any mischief worth mentioning. Birds then should never be shot at nor stoned. If unmolested by men and boys, they would fly about our windows, and through our gardens, destroying the myriads of insects which devour our plants.—They now are obliged to regard man as an enemy, to be avoided as we would avoid a tiger, or a hyena, or a grisly bear.

"As you were."—During the late war with Great Britain, a dashing belle, who is now an affectionate mother, found her progress arrested as she passed down Court street, in Boston, by a flood which prevented her passage to the opposite bank. She paused to consider her situation, and anxiously looking towards the desired heaven, when an honest tar, with a canvas hat, and blue ribbon, inscribed "U. S. frigate Constitution," bore up and reconnoitered her position. Without any apology or ceremony, he encircled her waist with his muscular arm, and wading knee deep through the water, landed the lady sensitive on the opposite shore.—More vexed than grateful, our belle curled her pretty lip, and said "you are an impudent fellow, sir." "Belay that, my dear," said Jack, "I'll make you fast again." Suiting the action to the word, he lifted her the second time, and re-fording the stream, placed her safely again where he first found her, observing, with a good natured laugh, "An you love your mooring so well, hearty, smoke my binnacle, but you may lay at anchor there." The above is true.—The lady has grown wiser and less sensitive since this lecture on squeamishness was read to her, and she frequently amuses her friends by relating the anecdote.

Anecdote.—The King of Prussia is frequently seen driving in a modest carriage and pair, wrapped up in a blue cloak, with his head buried in a large casquette. A short time since he was driving in this manner, and encountered the brilliant equipage of Count H——. The road was narrow, and the coachmen quarrelled for precedence. The Count, who did not know the King by sight, was determined to make the other carriage give way. Frederick William curious to know his competitor, enquired his name. "I am the rich Count H——," replied the rich magnifico, to the King's servant. "Go and tell him," said the King, "that I am the poor King of Prussia;" and at the same time ordered his coachman to let the Count pass.

An old man of 62 years, named Benjamin Ireson, of Marblehead, was picked up by the schr. Atlantic, of Gloucester, on Wednesday morning last, about nine miles south-east of Thatcher's Island. He went out in his dory from Marblehead on Tuesday morning, for the purpose of fishing, when he was driven to sea by the gale, and during all the day and succeeding night, destitute alike of food and protection from the cold, he was driven about entirely at the mercy of "Him who rides on the whirlwind and directs the storm." When he was picked up, he was almost speechless, his hands frozen, and life apparently all but extinct. The Gloucester Telegraph says this is believed to be the same man who, some years since, when returning to Marblehead from a fishing voyage, passed a vessel in distress, and without heeding the entreaties of her crew for assistance to save them from perishing, unfeelingly kept on his course, and left them to their fate. He mentioned the circumstance upon his arrival at Marblehead, from whence a vessel was immediately despatched to the relief of those on board the distressed stranger, and their lives saved. The people of Marblehead afterwards gave him a coat of tar and feathers, and dragged him through the streets in a cart.—Boston Courier.

Business in the country.—The Nashua (N. H.) Gazette informs us that the Nashua Railroad was commenced by the energetic contractors last week, and now rapidly progressing at several points on the road. The ten per cent. instalment ordered, has been already paid in a majority of the shares; showing conclusively that the FARMERS are wholly independent of the severe pressure which is so generally felt in the cities.

A MINISTER WITHOUT A HEAD. At Constantinople, when any thing goes amiss in public affairs, the general dissatisfaction is announced by a few bullets discharged through the window of the seraglio, and a demand made for the grand vizier's head. When M. de Calonne was removed from the ministry by Louis XVI, the Turkish Ambassador at Paris inquired where his head was stuck up.—Thinking this a matter of ordinary etiquette on such occasions, "Oh please your excellency," said the lively Parisian, "he never had any." And in this *bon mot*, which the honest Turk probably did not understand, they had full amounts of their minister, for all his misdeeds, real or imaginary.

Ancient.—The editor of the New Haven Emoryian has been presented with a portion of a boiled chicken that was cooked and packed for preservation in the year 1823, which he says, was as perfectly sweet and palatable as if it had been cooked but yesterday.

A pleasant sally.—A little girl observing a goose with a yoke on, exclaimed, "Why ma, there is a goose with cartwheels on. It walks like sister Sally."—Bost. Times.

ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BOSTON BANKS.

Paris, May 16 1837.

Our farmers are beginning to be impatient at the backwardness of the season. We saw a man from an adjoining town, a day or two since, who said that he had that day passed by fields of snow in the road, at least eight feet in depth. On warm dry ground, grain has been sown, but in many fields the frost is not out of the ground, and considerable snow is still to be seen all around us, and the prospect for corn is gloomy indeed, and not flattering for any other kinds of grain. Still the promise that seed time and harvest shall remain is sure, and we trust that a good Providence will yet give us the warm and genial influence of the sun in season and duration sufficient to ensure us a rich return for our industry. From the preparatory making we should infer that an unusual quantity of wheat will be sown this spring. The encouragement held out by the bounty on wheat, will co-operate with the usual coldness of the spring to induce farmers to trust more to wheat than to corn. The experience of last year too will persuade many to the same course, so that with a tolerable season, we may expect a good supply of wheat. It is also recommended to farmers by those whose judgment and experience entitle their opinions to great weight, to raise more roots than they have heretofore been in the habit of doing, as food for stock. Observation and experience prove that stock of all kinds thrive better when kept partly upon roots, and it is believed that they may be kept in this way cheaper than upon hay alone. If any doubt it let them try the experiment and we shall be happy to publish the result, however it may terminate.

Our exchange papers contain little of interesting nature. The pressure in the money market appears to be no heavier but perhaps lighter on the whole, though there is no material change. Many failures must inevitably take place, and some embarrassment will be the inevitable consequence. When the heavy debts incurred by the late ruinous speculations have been paid or compromised, their business will recommence with its accustomed vigor. Even the whigs at least the more respectable part of them are beginning to be ashamed of attributing all the distress to the specie circular, or indeed to any measures of the government. The absurdity of the clamor which has been made on this subject is too apparent to be longer persisted in. It is now admitted that other well known and apparent causes have conspired to produce it. England feels no less than this country, and they have a national bank and no specie circular. We must practice economy, and we shall thus learn a lesson that will be of use to us even in better times.

The following is an singular fact in natural history was related to us by a gentleman in this town a few days since. He bought a partridge from a boy who had just killed it, and upon opening it he found in the crop of the bird a striped snake twenty-two inches in length, without the head. We had supposed that these birds belonged to the Graham school and abstained from flesh altogether.

The Law Term of the Supreme Judicial Court will be in this town this week. There will be a Probate Court at the Probate Office on Tuesday next.

Mr. Samuel Dunham of Woodstock, committed suicide last week by hanging himself to a tree in the woods. He was a worthy, respectable and industrious man, in good circumstances. There is no known cause to be assigned for this rash act. He has left a wife and family to mourn his untimely loss.

OFFICIAL.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, May 1, 1837. In conformity to a resolution of the Senate, passed March 2, 1837, notice is hereby given that the receipts for the month of March last were, as near as can be now ascertained,

From customs,	\$1,997,308
From lands,	1,228,067
LEVI WOODBURY,	
Secretary of the Treasury.	

P. S.—The above exhibit for each month during the present recess of Congress, is the only one required to be made by any existing law in respect to the receipts and expenditures, or the deposits banks. But as it may be interesting to the community, the following statements are subjoined:

During the quarter ending the 31st of March, the whole receipts from customs have been about	\$5,015,826
Those from lands about	3,472,499
Those from miscellaneous sources, chiefly interests from deposit banks	288,000
Total	\$8,776,325

The whole expenditures during that quarter have been about	7,409,731
Leaving an excess of receipts amounting to about	\$1,366,594

But during the month of April, the receipts are believed to have been considerably less than the expenditures, though an accurate exhibit of them cannot be given till the first of next month.

It is, however, ascertained from the Treasurer's running account, that the whole amount of money applicable to appropriations, and which is now in the Treasury and on deposit in the banks and the Mint, is, after deducting what has been and is to be paid to the States, only about \$6,087,612.

SUSPENSION OF THE BOSTON BANKS.

We learn by a gentleman from Boston, who arrived in the Boat this morning, that on the reception in that city at 12 o'clock yesterday, of the news of the suspension of specie payments by the New York Banks, a public meeting of the citizens was called at 6 o'clock, by which a similar course of proceedings was recommended to the Boston Banks. Subsequently, at a meeting of Committees from those Institutions, it was almost unanimously resolved to suspend specie payments for the present, and the resolutions would be carried into effect this day.

The Boat was detained at Boston until nine

o'clock, in order to bring the result of the meeting held last evening. In Providence, also, the Banks suspended on the reception of the news from New York.

From the Portland Daily Advertiser of May 12th.

PUBLIC MEETING.

It was thought advisable on the part of many of our citizens of all parties, upon hearing of the measures adopted by the banks in New York and Boston, to call a meeting of the mercantile and trading community to see what course should be recommended to the several Banks of our own city. A public meeting was therefore called yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock.—The City Hall was called to the Chair, and Mr. John Fox was called to the Chair, and Mr. Daniel Winslow officiated as Secretary. After the reading of the preamble and resolutions which will be seen below, the meeting was eloquently and forcibly addressed by Messrs. Charles S. Davis, Nathaniel Mitchell, John Neal, Luther Jewett, John D. Kinsman, Jedediah Jewett and others who all urged the measures proposed by the resolutions; and the vote being taken upon the passage of the same, it was carried without a single dissenting voice. It will be gratifying to those of our fellow citizens who were not present, and to our friends in the country, to be informed that upon the breaking up of this meeting every man appeared to have an increased confidence in his neighbor. The measures recommended to the Banks of the city, in case they should see fit to follow them, seemed to strike every one as the best that could be adopted as means of arresting the progress of pecuniary pressure.

And now one word to the people living at such distances as not to be well acquainted with the standing of the several banks of our city.—They may rest assured that every dollar they hold in bills against any one of them is precisely as good as it was a year ago; and that any anxiety as to loss, in consequence of the precautionary measures to which our banks have been driven by means of the movements in New York and Boston, will be as needless as it would be to fear a loss in the value of gold or silver coin. The Portland Banks never stood firmer than at the present moment, and the confidence of our fellow citizens in their ability to redeem their bills never stood higher than since the meeting of yesterday afternoon.

The New York "Committee of Fifty." A majority of this Committee, it turns out, are decidedly opposed to the doings of the meeting by which they were appointed, (as indeed are nearly all the respectable "whigs" of New York,) and decline the honor of going to Washington to "remonstrate" with the President. Fifteen only accepted, and proceeded on their mission, the other thirty-five having sense enough to perceive that the specie circular operated beneficially, so far as it had the tendency to check overtrading and keep the precious metals in the country, and lacking the assurance to demand of the President to perform an act (the abrogation of the law of Congress, enforcing the collection of custom house bonds) clearly beyond his constitutional powers.

A writer in the Evening Post gives the following humorous account of the Committee.—Ridicule is the weapon best adapted to the case.—Age.

To the editor of the Evening Post.

THE FIFTY. Sir—I understand the meeting of the "Fifty" at Delmonico's, went off without any serious incident, though the public distress was depicted, not in sackcloth and ashes, but oysters and champagne. Some bloody minded speeches were delivered, and among the most eloquent was one by a member, whose name I could not learn, which would have stirred up a bed of oysters, had it not been brought to an untimely end by the explosion of a cork from a bottle of champagne, which struck him in the mouth and knocked out three of his teeth; so he can't bite now, though he may growl to great advantage. This catastrophe puzzled the committee to account for, but it was generally attributed to the specie circular.

The committee finally determined to proceed forthwith to Washington, each member armed with a pognon, loaded to the muzzle with gunpowder tea and gum balls.—I am further credibly informed, that they have engaged a rail road car to themselves, which is to carry a flag with a cross-bone and skull, grinning horribly, surmounted by three dried rats and an onion.—You may depend on these particulars, as I had them from one of the waiters, who picked up the orator's teeth and sold them to a comb maker for the benefit of his creditors.

I am, &c. **HARD MONEY.**

The Treasury Order.—The Richmond Enquirer, in speaking of the Treasury order, has the following remarks, which we regard as perfectly correct, and worthy of attention and reflection;

"We venture to say, that if the circular were now altogether rescinded, and the whigs were stripped of all the political clamor which it furnishes them with the pretext for producing, they would soon see how much they have complained in vain. The decision might arrest their clamor, but certainly not the serious embarrassments of the country."

We concur entirely in opinion with our friend of the Enquirer, that the rescinding of the Treasury order would not arrest the embarrassments of the country. We go further, and hesitate not to give it as our opinion, that so far from its having been productive of evil, it has prevented a further extension of the embarrassments with which the country has been afflicted, and saved the National Treasury from an immense loss; and we feel constrained to add, as our firm belief, that very many of the opposition who have joined in the clamor on account of it, either did so without reflection, or in violation of the dictates of their own better judgment.

The editor of the Richmond Whig, in commenting upon the above extract from the Enquirer, says:

"The whigs never asserted that the circular was the sole cause of the embarrassments of the country, or that its repeal would produce relief. They have maintained, and truly, that the circular was the finishing stroke to the system of tampering with the currency, which has been practised for years, and that it hastened and magnified the distress, which the excessive issues of the pet banks would at no distant day have occasioned. We do not believe that its rescission now would produce much relief."

It seems, that after all the clamor which has been kept up on this subject, we are to be told that the opposition never asserted that the circular was the sole cause of the embarrassments of the country, or that its repeal would produce relief. What, then, has been the meaning of the clamor? It was all designed for effect, and nothing more; being connected in the mind and purpose of the opposition with the United States Bank.—[Balt. Repub.]

The President and Mr. Biddle.—Some of the federal papers stated a story not long since, that Mr. Van Buren had sent for Mr. Nicholas Biddle, the President of the Pennsylvania Bank, in order to consult with him in relation to the present state of money matters. The story had more foundation than most which originate in the same quarter. It seems that Mr. Biddle went to see the President of his own accord, and that he came away "with a flea in his ear." One of his organs at New York, having ascertained, as it says, "in an authentic way" the facts of the case, gives the following account of them:—

"We understand that being on other business at Washington, Mr. Biddle took occasion to call on the President of the United States, to pay his respects to him in that character, and especially to afford the President an opportunity, if he choose to embrace it, to speak of the present state of things, and to confer, if he saw fit, with the head of the largest banking institution of the country—and that the institution to which such general application has been made for relief.

During the interview, however, the President, remained profoundly silent, upon the great and interesting topics of the day, and as Mr. Biddle did not think it his business to introduce them, not a word in relation to them was said.—[N. Y. American.

How obliging and modest in Mr. Biddle to "afford the President an opportunity to confer" with him, and how judicious in his organ to publish to the world the cutting and emphatic rebuke administered to Mr. B. by the President! Mr. Van Buren, as is proved by the tone in which Mr. Biddle speaks of the affair, could have taken no course which would have more effectively rebuked the purse-proud "bosses" of the latter in presuming to intrude himself, as an adviser, upon the people's President, than by the profound silence he maintained upon the subject on which the representative of the money power wished to dictate the Chief Magistrate of the Union. When Mr. Biddle's advice is sought, it will be time enough for him to "afford" it. The people desire no concert, no alliance between the Government and the head of the money power; and they will permit no so long as they love their liberties and the good of the republic.—Augusta Age.

Suppression of Small Bills.—The federal editors of the State raised a tremendous howl because the Legislature prohibited the circulation of one and two dollar bills. They could not convince the people that it was a suicidal act—it would prove injurious to their future prosperity. But the contrary has resulted. It has put in circulation a solid currency, of which the ones and twos were but ragged representatives—it has drawn from the banks, and put in circulation the specie which the banks have so sedulously endeavored to keep from the people. No one but the banks and those intimately connected with these *shaving mills*, have opposed the measure; the farmers and mechanics see that the law has increased their independence of these instrument of torture, and if carried out will place them beyond the power of modern banking. Virginia has taken the lead in this matter, and prohibited the circulation of a less denomination than \$20. In every State where bills of small denomination have been restricted, the people approve of the act, and demand a further extension of the law. In Connecticut the people require of their agents at the coming session "the suppression of threes, and fours;" and we think no representative will hesitate to vote for such an act, who is disposed to legislate for the interests of the people.—[Hartford Times.

The accounts of the growing wheat crop in Virginia are contradictory. Some of the Virginia papers say they have failed very generally; others say they are not so very bad. The fact is in our opinion we can raise larger crops of wheat in Maine, at any time, than they do in Virginia upon their worn out lands, cropped as they are year after year, and scantily if at all manured. Virginia.

A Good Wife.—A preacher in a funeral sermon on a lady, after summing up her good qualities, added, "that she always reached her husband's hat when he called for it, without muttering."

